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neighboring hills, did not fail on account of the summer heat. All the forms were of the coarsed-leaved kinds, the leaves frequently having a length of 2-3½ inches, and a corresponding width, being 3-5-nerved. The fruit, in capitate clusters, and with the keel more or less crested and notched, was very abundant. In these characters it approaches *P. Niagarensis*, Tuckerman; but, according to Mr. Morong, to whom some of the most marked specimens were submitted for comparison with type specimens in Robbins's herbarium, they are not quite identical. This great variability of leaves, and to some extent of fruit, both of which were carefully studied in specimens gathered in many localities, and under diverse conditions of growth, seems to lead conclusively to the opinion that no well marked line of separation can be drawn between *P. Niagarensis*, Tuckerman, and *P. pauciflorus*, Pursh; and that the former should be regarded as a variety of the latter. The same is true if based on a comparison of specimens collected in several quite widely separated localities in the West and North-west.

P. pusillus. Specimens of this would have to be classed with the variety *vulgaris*, Fries, sometimes approaching var. *major*, Fries, but more often var. *tenuissimus*, Mertens & Koch. In Silver Lake three forms were noticed, a common one with stems often 4½ feet long, but with fruit immature; a second with stems also long, of a reddish or pink color, and spikes of fruit emersed; a third with fruit larger and longer than usual, somewhat oblong, with a rather long, recurved style, the sides of the fruit impressed; spikes interrupted; stems 3-5 feet long.

P. marinus. This was very abundant in Hemlock Lake, in water 1½-3 feet deep, frequently in beds completely covering the bottom. The stems were usually long for the species, being about one foot in length, and the fruit copious. It was detected nowhere in the shallowest water nearest the shore, this ground being occupied almost invariably by *P. spirillus*, equally common but not in so dense beds. That found in Conesus Lake was not so tall, nor very common, as far as examination was made.

It may be of interest to state in connection with this as an evidence of the purity of the water of Hemlock Lake, from which the city of Rochester takes its water supply, that Potamogetons gathered there were almost wholly free from the earthy sediment which usually clings to these plants and is very troublesome to the collector, marring the looks and cleanness of his specimens. Chemical analysis has shown that the water of this lake ranks with the purest in the State. Species of *Potamogeton*, found in the neighboring Conesus Lake, whose water looks equally pure to the eye, were, however, quite thickly coated with an earthy deposit.

The time of these examinations was between July 22d and Aug. 9th, and the greater part of the species found showed some mature fruit, generally essential for complete identification.

Englewood, Ill.

E. J. HILL.

Pinus Banksiana.—In the July number of the BULLETIN (p. 82), Mr. N. L. Britton calls attention to the fact that our botanical writers

have commonly understated the size of Banks's Pine (*Pinus Banksiana*, Lambert), Gray describing it as "a straggling shrub or low tree," and other authors giving its maximum height at from twenty to forty feet. Mr. Britton then states that he has found trees, in the vicinity of Marquette on Lake Superior, that measured seventy feet in height; but he overlooks the detailed observations of Mr. Bell, who tells us that on the southern branches of Albany River, south-west of Hudson's Bay, he saw "large groves of these trees about seventy feet in height, and two feet in diameter at butt, with straight trunks nearly free from branches for the first twenty or thirty feet."

I have myself seen Banks's pine growing in abundance at various places along the lower River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, and at Newfoundland; and have found many trees at Godbout and Seven Islands that were upwards of fifty feet in height, and some that exceeded sixty feet. In the Province of Quebec it is largely used as a fire-wood, and along the north shore of the river it has become an article of commerce of no inconsiderable value, thousands of cords being shipped annually to Quebec. It is here called "cypress"!

In our manuals the species is commonly, though very improperly termed the "northern scrub pine." Its habitat is in the far north, where it attains its maximum development, constituting one of the larger forest trees. Only beyond the limits of its proper range does it occur as a "straggling shrub," or merit the appellation of "scrubby."

Mr. J. A. Allen, in treating of the correlation of size with geographical distribution in mammals, has tersely formulated the following law, which is as strikingly applicable in the present case as in any member of the group for which it was particularly framed: "*The maximum physical development of the individual is attained where the conditions of environment are most favorable to the life of the species.*" Species being primarily limited in their distribution by climatic conditions, their representatives living at or near either of their respective latitudinal boundaries are more or less unfavorably affected by the influences that finally limit the range of the species."

Locust Grove, N. Y.

C. HART MERRIAM.

Lonicera grata.—Does any New York or New Jersey botanist know aught of the station for this plant, "in the cedar swamps of New Durham, about three miles from Hoboken, New Jersey," cited by Torrey in his *Flora of the Northern and Middle States*, or, if the plant and the swamp are now extinct, is any other locality known? There is no specimen from New Jersey or New York in the Torrey Herbarium. This herbarium has a specimen from Dr. Darlington, and his stations, as given in the second edition of the *Flora Cestrica* (it is not in the first edition), are "on Ridley Creek, by Mr. George W. Hall, in 1831, also along the Brandywine, above the Forks, in 1835, by John Rutter." Now there is nothing in the character, nor in Darlington's specimens, to distinguish the species from the *L. Caprifolium* excepting that the leaves are perhaps more glaucous beneath and that the flowers are said to "have almost too strong an odor to be agreeable." I am not aware that this has ever been said of the